

The Sun

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A Question of Direction.

There is realization of an essential truth in Mr. BRYAN's reply at Omaha to the question whether he would object to being coupled with a Southern man on the Democratic national ticket, it being assumed by Mr. BRYAN that his own name would appear above the Southern man's.

"I don't think nominations should be sectional. It is not as important where a man comes from as where he is going to."

Profoundly true, in more than one sense. Practical politicians will understand the destination Mr. BRYAN had in mind as the White House. Mr. BRYAN has started for the White House twice, and his subsequent wanderings have taken him "somewhere east of Suez," and back by way of Jerusalem and Constantinople. It is very important for the Democratic party that its next candidate for President shall actually go "where he is going to."

In another sense the observation of Mr. BRYAN is profound and true. By "where he is going to" Mr. BRYAN may imply the principles for which the candidate stands. It is plain as a pikestaff that if he advocates Government ownership of railroads, or has urged it, or if he talks of driving out of the party Democrats who balk at the initiative, and referendum, "it is not as important where a man comes from as where he is going to." The candidate might come from anywhere if he stood for fundamental and rationally progressive Democratic principles.

Nominations for the Presidency need not be sectional, but it is important that they should be directional.

Don't Expect Too Much of the Business of Men.

The Hon. HERBERT PARSONS is the latest example of the statesman who is in a position to state:

"I am in a position to state that President ROOSEVELT is entirely in harmony with all that Governor HUGHES is doing, and that the President is sincerely hopeful that the Governor will be able to carry out his entire legislative programme."

There are some things that need no demonstration.

There is, for instance, the President's solicitude for the success of General BINGHAM in his great work of reforming the New York police force, with which Mr. ROOSEVELT was himself once personally connected. No word of cheer or approval has come from the President during General BINGHAM's trying ordeal, but that any reason for doubting where the President stands? His sympathy is understood, and it awaits only an opportunity for lavish expression.

Some day General BINGHAM will get a warm personal letter, such as gratified Signor FOGAZZARO the other day.

Will Ireland Repudiate the Proposed Administrative Council?

It is unlikely that much attention will be paid by the Nationalist members of Parliament to the demand of the *Sinn Féin*, the organ of the small Irish faction which prefers revolution to constitutional agitation, that they withdraw from Westminster and assemble in Dublin with authorized representatives of all Irish interests, there to devise measures for the attainment of international recognition of Ireland's political rights. The revolutionary proposal that an official body of Irishmen should claim representation at the coming Hague Conference for the purpose of procuring the settlement of the dispute between Ireland and England by an international court of arbitration will, of course, be rejected by Mr. JOHN E. REDMOND and other leaders of the Nationalist party.

It is by no means certain, on the other hand, that the Nationalist convention about to be held in Dublin will authorize Mr. REDMOND to accept the Birrell bill creating an administrative council for Ireland as even a rudimentary instalment of home rule, though that measure seems on the face of it a move in the right direction, as transferring eight administrative departments from the control of commissions appointed by the Lord Lieutenant to the control of a council mainly elective. Regarding the bill as at least a blow at arbitrary Castle government and as a proof of better feeling on the part of the British Government toward the Irish people, Mr. REDMOND has accepted it provisionally, although pointing out that his ultimate course would be determined by the instructions of the Irish Nationalists in convention assembled.

The Nationalist revolt against the bill, a revolt which is gathering great strength, is headed by the highest dignitaries of the Catholic Church in Ireland and stimulated by Mr. WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Mr. T. M. HEALY and other politicians. Cardinal LOGUE, primate of all Ireland, concurs with Archbishop WALSH and the Bishops of Limerick and Kildare in denouncing the measure, and their influence is likely to be potent, if not irresistible, in a convention largely composed of parish priests. Dr. DWYER, the Bishop of Limerick, has pointed out that the Birrell bill offers less than even the late Unionist Government was believed at one time to be willing to concede, and Cardinal LOGUE has gone so far as to say: "I believe that any politician who shall try to secure

acceptance of the bill in its present form by the forthcoming convention will incur grave suspicion of endeavoring to deceive his countrymen in the interest of the Bannerman Government." Mr. HEALY has declared the introduction of the bill the worst day's work done for Ireland in his time, and he holds that to proceed with it would be a crime against the Irish nation.

Under the circumstances it seems probable that Mr. REDMOND will fail to obtain an endorsement of the measure unless it receives important amendments. There is no doubt that Mr. BIRRELL himself and his chief, Prime Minister BANNERMAN, would gladly assent to such amendments as would make the measure acceptable to the great body of Irish Nationalists. Unfortunately they are hampered by the Rosebery wing of the Cabinet, composed of Foreign Secretary GREY, War Secretary HALDANE, and Mr. ASQUITH, Chancellor of the Exchequer, all of whom have refused to sanction any concession to Ireland that could fairly be described by Unionists as a step toward home rule. The present bill is understood to represent the maximum of what these three members of the Cabinet are willing to accept.

The Georgian Bay Canal and the Erie.

The work of the Georgian Bay Canal Commission is now nearing completion. A full report will be submitted to the Dominion Parliament at its next session. The main features of the report were published a few days ago. The proposals of the commission are for a more elaborate and more extensive enterprise than was originally projected. The present scheme is of even greater concern to American transportation interests than was the earlier plan. Its relation to the New York State \$101,000,000 canal enterprise assumes a new importance.

Briefly, the report of the Canadian commission proposes an inland waterway twenty-one feet in depth from Georgian Bay to Montreal by way of the French River, Lake Nipissing and the Ottawa River. The economic advantage of this route between the Great Lakes and Europe is evident. It can be appreciated by a glance at a map. The actual transportation distance from Sault Ste. Marie to New York by way of Huron, the St. Clair River, Lake Erie and the \$101,000,000 New York State canal is about twice as great as that from the Soo to Montreal via the projected Georgian Bay route. Such a canal would practically make ocean ports of Fort William, Duluth and even Chicago. That is, cargoes could be shipped from those points to Europe without breaking bulk. Freight carriers of considerable capacity could be loaded with wheat or iron or beef or other commodities at Lake ports and unloaded at European ports. It is estimated that the cost of transporting wheat to tidewater would be reduced by at least three and a half cents a bushel.

Earlier estimates of the cost of this enterprise have varied from \$35,000,000 to \$55,000,000. Commenting on the commission's estimate of \$105,000,000 for the plans which are to be submitted, an Ottawa despatch to the *Toronto Globe* says that "in the present estimate allowance is made for a finer waterway in respect to easy navigation for large vessels and for a more thorough and permanent engineering work than was contemplated in the estimates made hitherto." The new scheme also involves a supply of 500,000 horse-power, or nearly as much as is available at Niagara, which could be used for manufacturing purposes.

If Canada carries out this plan, as she is likely to do at no distant date, it will open direct and serious competition with the Erie canal route. Between this \$105,000,000 route with its twenty-one feet of navigable depth and the \$101,000,000 gutter across New York State, the odds, as a business enterprise, are emphatically in favor of the Georgian Bay Canal.

Meanwhile, in the pursuit of Futility and Graft, the Senate at Albany this week has passed the so-called Hill bill granting a rebate of taxes to savings banks and trust companies and insurance companies which will consent to purchase the State's unsalable three per cent. canal improvement bonds. If this unconstitutional and preposterous chrome measure should become a law it would merely amount to taking money raised by taxation for other purposes and dumping it into the hopeless ditch.

Reversals on Appeal.

In the report of the District Attorney's office for 1906 is included an analysis of the results of appeals taken from judgments of conviction in this county during the last five years. This exhibit will change the ideas of many readers concerning the frequency of reversals by the higher courts.

In the period covered by the report nineteen appeals were taken from convictions for murder in the first degree. Thirteen convictions were affirmed, two were reversed, and four were pending on December 31. Of these four appeals the conviction in one case has been affirmed this year, after it had been pending twenty-three months. The arguments were made on December 20 and the decision of the court was announced on January 15.

Of forty-seven appeals to the Court of Appeals by defendants from convictions for crimes other than murder in the first degree the convictions were affirmed in thirty-six cases, reversed in eight, and the appeals were dismissed in three cases. The result of four appeals by the people from convictions reversed by the Appellate Division was affirmation of the reversal in three cases and reinstatement of the conviction in one.

Of 220 appeals from judgments of conviction in the Supreme Court, Criminal Branch, the Court of General Sessions and the Court of Special Sessions to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court the convictions were reversed in twenty-seven cases. In 254 cases the convictions were affirmed or the appeals dismissed. Thirty-nine appeals were pending on December 31.

Of this showing Assistant District Attorney TAYLOR, who prepared this portion of the report, says:

"I am informed by the Chief Clerk that the number of convictions by verdict secured by your office during the period of 1902-1906 averages 470 a year. It appears that out of this large number only about fifty-five or sixty appeals, on an average, are taken every year. The tables show that at the Appellate Division more than half of these appeals are abandoned or dismissed. Of the remaining half, which are actually brought on for argument, less than one in five are reversed. Out of the forty-seven appeals taken by defendants from affirmances by the Appellate Division only eight resulted in reversals by the Court of Appeals."

"Percentages are deceptive and I do not care to indulge in any. It would seem, however, to be a fair inference from these figures that when an appeal is taken from a judgment of conviction the chances are most on one against its resulting in a reversal. At any rate, the figures of the last five years of your administration justify this inference. Apart from any question of percentages or chances, the absolute figures should cause you much satisfaction."

The popular impression, gained from the notoriety that usually attaches to reversals by the Appellate courts, unquestionably is that a much higher percentage of appeals results in reversal. The affirmations of conviction, except in the most sensational cases, attract little notice, while every reversal is a matter of wide public comment.

Mr. Fairbanks in Philadelphia.

The Vice-President's visit to Philadelphia as a guest of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association was a signal triumph of tact and conservative statement. The temper lay in wait for Mr. FAIRBANKS. "I'll talk anything but politics," he said, firmly. At the banquet of the association he talked cotton, expansion and prosperity with such perfect balance and repression that his hearers wanted him to go on, there was a scene of great enthusiasm, a salute with haphkins and entirely unprovoked acclamations of "Our Next President." It was an embarrassing moment when ex-Senator McLAURIN of South Carolina, with a laudable want of delicacy, declared that Mr. FAIRBANKS was capable of wielding "the big stick" too, but that his aggressiveness was tempered by an endearing sweetness of disposition. There is a report that the guest of honor apologized in private for Mr. McLAURIN's indiscretion.

When the Vice-President met the reception committee at the Broad street station a rude person who has not been identified suggested to Mr. FAIRBANKS that some of the delegates desired to see higher honors thrust upon him. The Vice-President blushed uncomfortably, but was equal to the occasion. He said:

"Philadelphia has grown enormously. And I was never in a city where the streets were laid out in a more desirable way. There is no doubt of the good influence upon the nation exerted by the spirit of your people. They are never rash, they hold to the best there is in American life, they stand against wrong innovations, and with all these good things there is intense activity and progress here. It is one of the most wonderful cities I have ever visited."

As the same things could have been said of any other growing American city it was but an additional proof of the nicety of Mr. FAIRBANKS. Perhaps the most trying experience of his visit occurred when he looked in on the cotton exposition. By some inadvertence a band in the gallery burst into "Hail to the Chief," and all the machinery started up. Mr. FAIRBANKS tried to hide his confusion by shaking hands with everybody and giving his autograph to a forward young woman who was very beautiful, according to a Philadelphia newspaper.

On the whole Mr. FAIRBANKS came out of the ordeal very well, and not a single disquieting thing can be quoted against him. He made an impression of radiant composure, and in his picture taken with the officers of the exposition group about him he looks dignified and noncommittal, but not at all unfriendly.

The reform impulses of the boss ridden Republican party in New Jersey it owes largely to the initiative and valor of State Senator EVERETT COLBY of Essex. The pressure upon him to allow his name to be presented for Governor by the New Idea League is steadily increasing. COLBY seems to be the most vital force in New Jersey politics to-day, and were he to yield to the appeals of his admirers his nomination for Governor by the Republican party, which he is trying to heal of its disorders, might come in spite of the losses Mr. COLBY believes it to be his duty to accept out his term as Senator, and declares that he is committed to a campaign of education which may last ten years.

It may be that Senator COLBY would decline in public estimation if he were to show a spark of ambition for higher political honors, but there is nothing in his career to justify a suspicion that he is not sincere and wholehearted in the position he has taken. If the people want him for Governor they will have him, notwithstanding his reluctance to serve them.

The impression that ABE RUEB confessed to save the remnant of his fortune from the lawyers probably does full justice to that lecherous moralist and is no libel on the lawyers.

Field Marshal Lord ROBERTS, who has been urging England to adopt conscription, has found a useful ally in ALFRED DEAKIN, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia. It is Mr. DEAKIN's belief that the Australians will soon have to consent to compulsory military service as preparation for an inevitable conflict with Asia. It is manifest that the Australians cannot maintain a navy large enough to defend their coast line of 10,000 miles, and that they must rely upon their land forces to resist invasion.

With regard to England, it is the contention of Lord ROBERTS that her sea power, great as it is, cannot be depended upon to prevent the landing of a Continental army at some point on the North Sea coast, and that the home troops are at present neither numerous nor efficient enough to cope with such a well equipped and perfectly trained army as, say, Germany would fit out for service in England. When one considers what part a North Sea fog might play in the problem of intercepting an invading force it must be admitted that there is sound

reason for the veteran's fears. Lord ROBERTS may have to wait for a Conservative Government before he can make his point. Meanwhile Germany's opposition to disarmament adds to the gravity of the situation as the professional soldiers like Lord ROBERTS see it.

From Dr. MORRISON's complaint that the "open door" is a farce in the Far East because the Japanese are juggling with tariffs and freights, instating British goods and representing them as imported, even photographing English books at Tokyo and selling them with the names of English firms on the title page, it would appear that Japan is making a second conquest, this time an industrial one, in the Far East, and is acting upon the principle that all is fair in a trade war.

The President in accepting a baseball pass from the National Association of Baseball Leagues betrayed a strange unfamiliarity with the most strenuous of all games when he praised it because of its middle age could play it. It is true that some of the professionals like JIM O'ROURKE and DAN BROTHERS, but a very small number, lingered on the diamond until the edge of youth was dulled, but baseball is not a congenial game to middle aged men.

The veteran HARRY WRIGHT when fifty years old played in an exhibition game at Boston, but made a sorry figure running bases. A middle aged man is apt to be a bit stiff in the knees and fatbowed in the shoulders. In picking up a relay out of a beating ball to fire on a bunt, turning some somersaults in the outer field after clawing a ball from the sky, and in adding to the home plate in a cloud of dust, he doesn't compete handily with the popular favorites. The President must have confused baseball with golf, a game which JACK FAIRBANKS could have played decently. It may be doubted whether the President would understand the most approved report of a baseball game without an interpreter.

The Hon. ISAAC STEPHENSON, who will succeed JOHN COIT SPOONER of Wisconsin in the Senate of the United States, is a rich man, a "corporationist," a contributor to campaign funds, but he is not denounced as an enemy of the republic. He is saved by his admiration for ROBERT MARION LA FOLLETTE, which shows that his heart is in the right place. Thus is illustrated the wisdom of a rich man picking his political company with care when he aspires to public honors.

I have pleasant memories of Manchuria.—General KUROKI.

But the general is too modest to write about his victories at Yalu, Kiuen-lin and on other fields; or does the policy of the Japanese Government forbid military authorship? What a delight an authentic account of the campaign that began at the Yalu and ended at Mukden would be to the general public! The general would be in the line of the literary gift of the man who has no pleasant memories of Manchuria, ALEXIS NICHOLAYEVICH KUROPATKIN. The Russian's facility is amazing, as well as the number of his decorations, all set down in the English edition of "Who's Who": a library of books bearing his name and more than thirty crowns, crosses, medals and knots that go with orders such as St. Vladimir, White Eagle, St. Alexander Nevsky, the Lion and Sun; while KUROKI, General Baron, has less than four paltry lines, with his deeds of courage and decorations left out.

Italy Was in Brooklyn and Otherwise.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—The history of that little church across the river is a splendid chronicle of war waged in the high and holy name of religion. I am warmed to this church by marriage.

Some eighteen or twenty years ago my wife's parents, newcomers to Brooklyn, joined this then young and always struggling church. They had always been Presbyterians, but the prospect of "growing up" with the church attracted them. The dream was soon shattered, however, by a row between the shepherd and his flock.

A blank space of fifteen years or so, then on the other side of the river, the church attracted them. The dream was soon shattered, however, by a row between the shepherd and his flock. A blank space of fifteen years or so, then on the other side of the river, the church attracted them. The dream was soon shattered, however, by a row between the shepherd and his flock.

These incidents have capped the climax of a successful career. The church has made many others—unnumbered. BACCHILLER. NEW YORK, May 17.

Hailing Fort of the Wallbe.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—That State which is bounded on the north by South Dakota and the Initiative and on the south by Missouri and Anti-Injunction must contain the home port of the Wallbe. R. H. T. NEW YORK, May 17.

Twine for Iowa Harvest.

From the *Des Moines Register*.—A new record of twine has been ordered to harvest the grain crop in Iowa in 1907. This represents between 20,000,000 and 25,000,000 pounds. Much of this twine has already been shipped to the retail dealers in various parts of the State and the remainder will be within the next sixty days.

This is, of course, estimating that there will be the usual crop of grain. Twine is always ordered in great quantities before harvesting time. Practically all of the twine used now is either sisal or standard. Some years ago manilla was the principal grade of twine, but it has become scarce and the price has advanced so much that only a few cars will be used this season, where millions of pounds were used in years gone by. Formerly standard was made by mixing sisal with manilla and the price was about midway between manilla and sisal. Now there is practically no manilla in standard and the price is about the same as sisal. Sisal hemp is secured in Mexico.

Disease by Telephone.

From *Monchen Med. Wochenschrift*.—According to Dr. Tomarkin the public has formed an exaggerated idea of the risk of catching contagious diseases by means of the telephone. The inhalation of dust which has accumulated in funnel shaped transmitters or the application of a receiver to the ear might possibly cause a contamination must be very rare, and there are telephone which make it impossible.

Roman Taximeter Cab.

From the *London Daily Mail*.—Vetrivius, the Roman historian, describes a taximeter cab in use in Rome about 79 A. D. The mechanism caused a stone to drop into a basin under the carriage every 1,000 paces, and at the end of the journey the driver computed the fare by counting the stones.

The Toughest in the Book.

Fiedel was boasting of his mathematical ability. "But," they sneered, "can you define a square root?" Herewith sobbed about the stalwart geometriest's frame.

The Blurb.

(From a Blurb).—The blurb is the most useful of all things. That's what it is in a Publisher's Ken. It eats Sissy Dietrich inland with Gaa. And lives in the Pout of a Pen.

And if it once stings you, your coco will swell And the Adjective, Pronoun and Verb Must work overtime when writing a blurb. By the blurbloquacious Blurb.

F. P. FITZGERALD.

THE BRYAN APATHY.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., May 15.—The astonishing feature of the political situation here—meaning, of course, the national situation—is the almost unanimous acceptance of Bryan as the Democratic candidate, coupled with an utter dearth of enthusiasm for him. Every one takes it for granted, in a dull and hopeless kind of way, that Bryan will be the party leader next year, but no one seems disposed to accept the responsibility. Brown, for example, was his head and shoulders above the rest of the crowd, and he is a low opinion of the wisdom of his neighbors. Smith, Jones and Robinson do the same thing. They all agree that Bryan is inevitable because the others will have none. Nobody wants to make himself conspicuous, possibly absurd, by protesting against a foregone conclusion. At the same time the most persistent inquiry among thinking men fails to identify any human being who personally wants Bryan or can advance the smallest valid reason for his candidacy.

A more profound apathy it would be difficult to imagine. It is an apathy such as takes possession of people who have accepted a prophecy of disaster and, stupefied by a sense of irrevocable doom, are patiently waiting for the end. Almost any individual capable of carrying a thought to its conclusion will in private conversation deplore Bryan's errors, point out the injury he does to the party, express resentment at his lack of his historical pretensions, and end by acknowledging the hopelessness of any attempt to elect a Democratic ticket of which he is the head. The same individuals, however, consider it as useless to talk of anybody else, because "the other fellows" are bent upon him. Here at least the blight has fallen and bids fair to stay. It is hard to find a man who wants Bryan. It is still harder to find one who thinks it worth while to struggle against obvious destiny. There may be logic in Bryan's leadership, but it is the logic of despair. He may have a lien, but it is a lien on superstition and fatalistic surrender.

Behind all this is an unaccountable submission to the hypothesis of the South's unfriendliness for prominence in national affairs. Southern Democrats have long contented themselves with the rôle of the poor relation that they seem actually to tremble at the thought of taking their proper place in the party family. They have been sitting below the salt for forty years, and are unable to believe that they would know how to behave themselves if moved up higher. Only Friday morning, for example, the Richmond *Times Dispatch* delivered an editorial oration on this line. Mr. Culbertson was congratulated because he had used his influence to dissuade the Texas Legislature from endorsing him as a Presidential candidate, praised as a man of good sense and party devotion, and recommended to all other prominent Southern Democrats as an example worthy of the most studious emulation. There was also the profound and ingenious argument that the Southern States should beware of the insidious snare of Bryan's "overdose" of money. The editor of the paper, who is a Democrat, delivered an editorial oration on this line. Mr. Culbertson was congratulated because he had used his influence to dissuade the Texas Legislature from endorsing him as a Presidential candidate, praised as a man of good sense and party devotion, and recommended to all other prominent Southern Democrats as an example worthy of the most studious emulation. There was also the profound and ingenious argument that the Southern States should beware of the insidious snare of Bryan's "overdose" of money.

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ASIATIC MENIAL LABOR.

Beecher's Prediction That We Would Have to Employ It Recalled.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Reading Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft's letter in *The Sun* on the Chinese exclusion question I am reminded of some opinions expressed by Henry Ward Beecher in Cincinnati in 1877 or 1878 which showed his keen foresight and his appreciation of the imminence of a situation which Mr. Bancroft describes as now existing.

Mr. Beecher had consented to be interviewed for one of the morning papers, and among other subjects he discussed our public educational system. While in no sense decrying universal education Mr. Beecher had no hesitancy in pointing out a ripe field for advancement in that it would set our boys and girls above manual or menial labor; make them crowd the market as professional men and women, clerks, salesmen, etc., and in summing up he said (I quote from memory): "We shall need a better class of labor."

I asked whence in his judgment this class would be drawn, and his reply was that it would come from Asia—from China; and he seemed rather inclined to be glad that we had this prospect of a back upon for hewers of wood and drawers of water.

This, of course, was prior to the passage of the Chinese exclusion act, and Mr. Beecher did not foresee. T. J. B. NEW YORK, May 17.

A Californian's Indorsement of Mr. Bancroft's Views.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—It was with great satisfaction that I read the letter of Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft in *The Sun* on the Chinese exclusion question. I am reminded of some opinions expressed by Henry Ward Beecher in Cincinnati in 1877 or 1878 which showed his keen foresight and his appreciation of the imminence of a situation which Mr. Bancroft describes as now existing.

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Old Rubbers for Graduation Exports.

Through union action and a little foresight, the pupils of the Harvard School, in Charlestown, have a school fund all ready to meet their graduation expenses, and not a cent of it was contributed by pupils or parents in the form of money.

Knowing that the class needed money to buy a class picture, individual photographs, and perhaps to pay something toward costumes that might be required for the play, the pupils in the Harvard School, in Charlestown, have a school fund all ready to meet their graduation expenses, and not a cent of it was contributed by pupils or parents in the form of money.

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FRENCH TARIFF SITUATION.

This Government Can Do Nothing to Relieve It Until Congress Acts.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Although the French tariff situation is regarded as serious by the State Department, it is not likely that anything will be done toward an agreement, which is now waiting the approval of the Kaiser, is finally disposed of and out of the way. It is pointed out by officers here that the situation with respect to France is radically different from that with regard to Germany, in fact that the one is the reverse of the other.

As to Germany, a commission was sent to Berlin to ascertain what could be done in the way of arranging a satisfactory agreement, which now practically has been completed. In regard to France, the situation was obtained several years ago and a recommendation as to what ought to be done was made to the Senate by the late Secretary Hay. The Senate, however, refused to act upon the time limit, or the promulgation of the French treaty has expired long ago.

It now becomes necessary for Congress to act, and the President is acting, that will enable the President to negotiate a trade agreement with France. It is said that little or nothing can be done by the State Department, and that the situation until Congress shall take the first step.

In the meantime there is good reason for believing that France has decided to increase steadily the duties on American imports to such an extent that in many instances they are likely to be prohibitive.

TAFT'S WESTERN TRIP.

To Visit Several States and Deliver Speeches in June.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Secretary of War Taft to-day announced the complete itinerary of his forthcoming Western trip. He will leave Washington on May 29 for St. Louis, where, on Decoration Day, he will deliver an address before the Millers' convention. He will then return to this city, and on June 1 will leave here for Milwaukee, where, on the evening of June 10, he will speak before the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association. On June 11 he will visit the arsenal at Daveport, and in the evening will be at the headquarters of the Tri-City Press Club at a dinner.

On June 12 the Secretary will speak at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, and on the following day before the students of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis. June 14 he will spend in St. Paul and will visit Fort Snelling. In the evening he will be at the headquarters of the Tri-City Press Club at a dinner. On the following day he will go to Sioux City and may visit Fort Keogh. From there he will proceed to Fort Meade, S. D., where he will address the officers of the 6th Cavalry, and then to the Indian reservation in Utah, where he will deliver an address. He will then go to Fort Leavenworth by way of Oklahoma, reaching there on June 19, and on June 20 will deliver an address before the Chautauque Society at Chautauque, Kan. From there he will return to Washington.